Message from our Chair

This past month there were two events that brought home why I’m proud every day to be a part of the Radiology team. The first was the great power and IT outage of 2013. Over 50 Radiology employees were here that weekend, during which the loss of all IT systems and internet connections, HVAC, and paging posed tremendous challenges to caring for patients. Everyone pitched in, many coming in on their days off and cancelling plans to help or check equipment. People showed tremendous flexibility and kept the needs of the patients first and foremost in their minds.

The second event was the benefit for Jill Fenoff at Salt Hill Pub on October 7. The department was out in force, raising over $2500 through raffles and other events that went directly to Jill. We are also pleased to have helped raise $600.00 for the Susan G. Komen Foundation for Breast Cancer Research.

It was heartwarming to see the caring and effort put into the event to assist one of our employees and the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

Thank you all for making the Department a special place to work, providing care and support for our patients and our fellow friends and co-workers.

Inside this issue:

Don’t Forget!

The deadline for making your 2014 benefit elections is Monday, November 04, 2013 at 11:59 PM Eastern Standard Time.

After the Open Enrollment period ends, your medical, dental, or Flexible Spending account elections will remain the same until December 31, 2014; unless you experience a qualified life event. If you are enrolled in the Health Savings Account, you may start, stop or change your deductions at any time throughout the year.

To complete your Open Enrollment elections, log on to the Dartmouth-Hitchcock myBenefits portal at mydhbenefits.com – available seven days a week, 24 hours a day. If you have any questions, please call the D-H Benefits Administration Office at 603.653.1400.

Mark Your Calendars!

The Radiology Holiday Party will be held on Friday, December 6th at the Hanover Inn. More information will be emailed soon!

Mission Statement

The Department of Radiology, in concert with the entire medical, academic and research staff of Dartmouth-Hitchcock, seeks to lead the transformation of health care in our region, setting the standard for our nation in achieving the healthiest population possible. Through research, education, clinical practice and community partnerships, we are committed to the mission of advancing health, providing each person the best care, in the right place, at the right time, every time.
Outreach Projects

In early August, Dartmouth-Hitchcock began providing Professional Radiology Services for the Hospitals of Coos County New Hampshire: Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital (UCVH), Androscoggin Valley Hospital (AVH) and Weeks Medical Center (WMC). D-H is providing this service through a combination of on-site coverage and tele-radiology service (see the OneView article below). Dr. Stanley Whitaker has worked at AVH for nearly 10 years and was hired by DH to provide our on-site radiology presence at AVH. In January, Dr. John Hubbard will join D-H to cover WMC and UCVH on a permanent basis. Until then, D-H based radiologists are providing this service. This type of partnership is critical in helping D-H achieve its strategic goal of creating a sustainable health care delivery system while improving quality and reducing cost.

IT Happenings

OneView

Starting this summer, the DHMC radiologists began reading exams for 3 additional hospitals (Coos) through an application called OneView. OneView is a GE product that links directly to our current RIS/PACS systems so it appears seamless for our radiologists. The Coos studies populate the radiologists’ work lists just like the DHMC studies. On the back end, we have configured multiple interfaces in order to make the product work, including order and ADT interfaces coming into DHMC, results interfaces going to the Coos hospitals and an image interface that automatically pulls the studies into our system. This large project was accomplished with the help of multiple resources at DHMC including the interface, project management and network teams and by resources at the Coos hospitals.

Do You Know...

...about our department’s Residency Program?

The Radiology residency is a competitive four-year program and offers cutting-edge facilities and an array of research opportunities. The residency has a 2:1 faculty-to-resident ratio, and our staff is actively involved with research and teaching. Currently, DHMC radiology programs enroll a total of 20 residents and 5 fellows. Steve Sargent is the Program Director, Stephanie Yen—the Associate Director, and David Pastel is Assistant Director. This skilled group of physicians works closely with Willo Sullivan, GME Residency & Fellowship Coordinator for radiology, as well as Petra Lewis, Vice Chair of Education, and Caitlin Lowery, Clinical Secretary, to make sure the program runs efficiently.

Fellowship programs in Cross-Sectional Imaging, MRI, Neuroradiology, and Vascular and Interventional Radiology (VIR) are designed to supplement the resident experience.

Our program strives to integrate hand-on experience, PACS teaching, and core curriculum conferences. Radiology holds regular joint-teaching conferences with Urology, General Surgery, Gastroenterology, Pulmonary Medicine, Thoracic Surgery, ENT, Maternal/Fetal Medicine, Neurology, Neurosurgery, and Pediatrics. A Visiting Professor Program brings diverse ideas to residents and provides them with international leaders as role models.

Find out more about our Residency Program on our website: http://gme.dartmouth-hitchcock.org/diagnostic_radiology.html
CT Technologist Travels to Haiti by Kayla Denny

Partners in Health is a company in Massachusetts that helped build a brand new 300 bed hospital in Mirebalais, Haiti. All of the hospital’s equipment was donated by various companies (including a brand new CT Scanner), and there are many volunteers going down each week to help teach the new employees how to run the equipment. I was given the opportunity to go and teach CT to two Radiologic Technologists down there during the week of June 16, 2013. The CT Scanner that they have is a brand new portable scanner. The techs were very eager to learn and picked up fast. We successfully scanned three patients while I was there. Unfortunately, we had a few issues with the scanner but the kinks got worked out and the techs are now scanning every day! The techs only learned basic CT scans this time around, but over the next year or so, myself and two of my coworkers at DHMC will be taking turns going down to teach them more complex scans. It was a great experience...and I’m excited to go back again!

Meet the Senior Residents

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<td>Himabindu Avutu</td>
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<td>Jordan Alistair</td>
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<td>Robert Percarpio</td>
<td>New York Medical College</td>
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<td>Arash Saemi</td>
<td>University of Vermont College of Medicine</td>
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Have a good idea? Heard something amazing?

This is issue Number One of the new Radiology newsletter and we want it to be an improved attempt over that of newsletters past. We are aiming for quarterly publications, but it will take a lot of help. If there’s something important, wonderful or just kind of cool going on in your neighborhood of radiology, let us know so we can share the news. Email: Kim Owens at kimberly.a.owens@hitchcock.org
New faces!

Kumar Vellore

Kumar is the new MR/NM Section Supervisor. He comes to us from St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis, TN, where he worked as the MRI supervisor. He holds professional credential as an R.T. (R) (CT) (MR) with a history of working experience in Nuclear Medicine as well. He brings management and operational leadership experience to this position. We are excited to have Kumar join our Radiology team and looking forward to working with him.

Valerie Ezzell

Valerie has extensive technical and clinical knowledge and skills that we are excited for her to bring to the department. Most recently she was a system engineer for Amicas/Merge PACS supporting Mass General site for five years. Prior to this she was with GE working on their applications team providing support to customers for the GE radiology suite of products. She also has a wealth of clinical knowledge being a radiology technologist in multi modalities for five years.

In the coming weeks, Valerie will be reaching out to team leads to schedule time to observe the workflow in each area, including the technologists, radiologists, business staff and nursing workflows.

Seamus Geoghegan

Seamus was hired as the RN Unit Supervisor for VIR and his responsibilities will be direct personnel management of the nursing staff and oversight of clinical nursing operations on a day to day basis working both in an administrative and clinical role.

He comes to VIR with extensive experience in various clinical settings at DH including Endoscopy, OR, ICU and most recently Life Safety. He was selected for his outstanding clinical skills, as well as comprehensive knowledge and experience with procedural areas, moderate sedation and inpatient/outpatient workflow strategies.

Joe Caristi

Joe grew up in Bristol, NH. After graduating from Plymouth State with a degree in Finance, he chose to move to Charleston, SC where he worked as a Business Analyst for a large scale ENT practice. Over time he started to miss his close knit family, and in May applied for his current position of Business Analyst here at Dartmouth –Hitchcock in an effort to come back home.

Joe’s main focus in the Radiology Department is to provide ad-hoc reporting and decision support for management and supervisors. He uses the reporting tools available, along with Excel, to provide quantitative (and sometimes qualitative) information to those who need to make decisions.

If you ever have any questions or need help with Excel, Joe is always happy to help and usually in his office located next to the CT/MRI Schedulers.

Tomi Osunkoya

Tomi is a Value Performance Associate (VPA) from the Performance Improvement department and currently embedded in Radiology. She comes to us with a Bachelor’s Degree in Chemical Engineering from Lafayette College and a Masters Degree in Engineering Management from Dartmouth College.

Tomi is one of the D-H Value Institute (VI) Lean Six Sigma Blackbelt instructors and coaches. In her role as an embedded Radiology VPA, she helps VI-trained Greenbelt and Yellowbelt students successfully execute improvement projects across the department. In addition, she helps to identify opportunities for improved efficiency and reduced variation in Radiology workflows.
Welcome Back!

"Welcome Back" to Dr. Peter K. Spiegel who will be coming back at a “per diem” status beginning November 20th, and to Dr. John J. McIntyre who recommenced full-time status on October 1st. We are very happy to have them back with their D-H Family.

Welcome Aboard!

Dr. Stanley Whitaker joined our Radiology Department on August 1st and provides on-site radiology services at Androscoggin Valley Hospital (AVH). Prior to joining DH, Dr. Whitaker was employed for nearly 10 years at AVH and is welcomed addition to the D-H family.

Coming Soon!

QGenda

Automated Physician Scheduling

Scheduling Made Easy

The Radiology department recently signed a contract with a company called QGenda. QGenda is an automated physician scheduling software that will be instrumental in developing the weekly schedule for our Attending Physicians, Fellows and Residents. Some exciting features that QGenda offers are:

- Customizable schedules that use “rules” developed based on FTE, sub-specialty, department restrictions and physician preferences.
- Tracking of all vacation requests and shift swaps
- Internet access to the latest up to day schedule from anywhere
- Mobile Access and Calendar import to smart phones, tablets and other devices.

And much, much more! Stay tuned for this exciting change to happen within the next few months....